



NSP Informer

In this issue...

- Trooper Jerry L. Smith #373
Lost in the Line of Duty.....1
- Colonel's Corner.....2
- Honoring #373.....3-4
- Camp 60 Graduates.....5-6
- NSP Foundation Message...7
- Dispatchers Week.....7
- MADD Awards..... 8
- Special Presentation for
Troopers Amos' Family.....9
- Personnel Changes.....10-12
- In Memory.....13

Pro bono publico

Trooper Jerry L. Smith #373 Lost in the Line of Duty

On June 20, 2019, the Nebraska State Patrol lost a four-year veteran who had become a role model for colleagues around the state during his time with NSP. Trooper Jerry L. Smith #373 was not only a proud Trooper, but he led a decorated, 25-year career in the United States Army before joining NSP in 2014.



Trooper Jerry L. Smith #373 working a shift in Troop E in 2017

Trooper Smith is the first trooper lost in the line of duty in 20 years, joining 11 others who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the citizens of Nebraska. Trooper Smith graduated from Camp 56 in May 2015, and is believed to be the oldest recruit to graduate from NSP's Basic Recruit Camp. He joined NSP after a 25-year career in the U. S. Army, serving multiple tours in Operation Iraqi Freedom, for which he was awarded the Bronze Star. Trooper Smith is survived by his wife, three children, and two grandchildren. Trooper Jerry L. Smith was 51 years old.



Trooper Jerry L. Smith #373

End of Watch: June 20, 2019



NSP Informer Staff

Editors

Cody Thomas
Kimberly Skala

Contributors

Colonel John Bolduc
Brady Rivers
Chris Peters

www.statepatrol.nebraska.gov

(402) 471-4545

Nebraska State Patrol

P.O. Box 94907

Lincoln, NE 68509-4907

Follow us on social media



Colonel's Corner

NSP Team,

June 20, 2019 will be one of those days in the history of the Nebraska State Patrol that none of us will forget, but all of us wish never happened. As we know, Trooper Jerry L. Smith #373, lost his life in the line of duty on that beautiful sunny panhandle morning. I just finished reading the last of hundreds of cards and letters sent to NSP from all over the country offering condolences and prayers for the family of Trooper Smith and his fellow Troopers and staff. To say that the heartfelt words were moving would be an understatement.



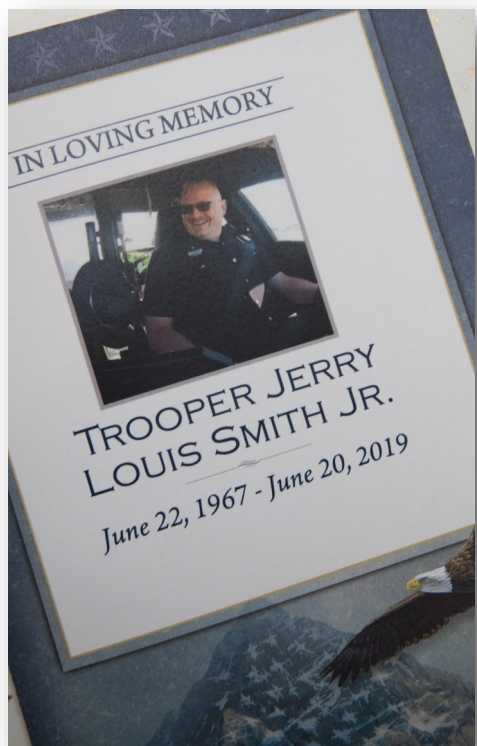
Hundreds of letters came from law enforcement officials and agencies, some of whom had recently experienced a line of duty death. They share our pain and the impact that something like this has on an agency. But the most impactful letters came from ordinary citizens from every state who just wanted to tell us they were sorry. One came from a five year old boy whose mother helped him write the letter. He was sad when he saw it on the news. His mother said he had to do something, so he penned a letter and sent it in. Others were retired law enforcement officers who still have a deep connection to the profession they loved. They just wanted us to know that they were praying for us and Jerry's family.

In law enforcement we truly have a huge extended family that cares about each other. Although our uniforms and badges may be different, we all share in common the mission to serve, protect, and sometimes sacrifice. This is what unites us. We also have a tremendous amount of support in our communities, our state, and throughout the country. This was plainly evident by the outpouring of support from regular people who feel our pain. Thank you.

Colonel John Bolduc



Honoring Trooper Jerry L. Smith #373



On Thursday, June 27, 2019, troopers from across Nebraska and law enforcement officers from around the state and entire country gathered together in Scottsbluff to honor the life and service of Trooper Jerry L. Smith #373.

Trooper Smith was killed in the line of duty on June 20, when an inattentive driver struck another vehicle, crossed the center line on Highway 26, and struck Trooper Smith's unit head-on west of Bridgeport. Trooper Smith was pronounced deceased at the scene.

In the days that followed, support came in from around the country. On June 27, hundreds of law enforcement officers, traveling from as far as California, Florida, and New Jersey, stood together to honor Trooper Smith at a funeral service at Western Nebraska Community College.

Troopers from Troop E and campmates from Camp 56 escorted Trooper Smith to the funeral service in a procession that saw hundreds of citizens line the streets of Scottsbluff with American flags.

The service was broadcast live on several radio and TV stations across Nebraska, and streamed on numerous media websites thanks to Scottsbluff's KNEB.



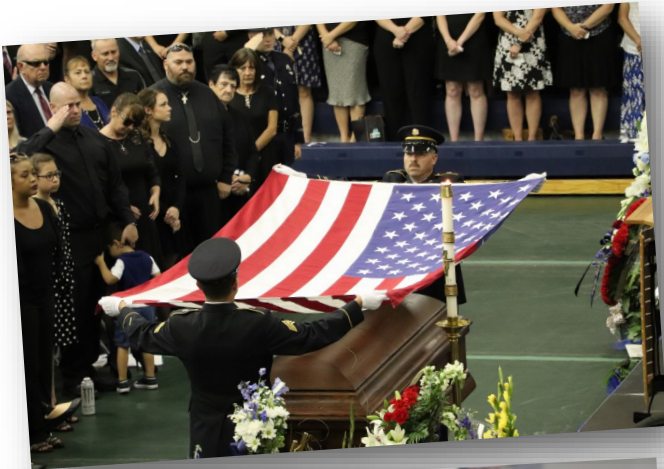
"To my brothers and sisters in uniform, we see ourselves in Jerry's story and it gives us pause. He would want us to carry on and just do our job. And I know that we will all do that, because you all have the heart of a servant and the spirit of a warrior, just like Jerry."

-Colonel John Bolduc, speaking at Trooper Smith's funeral on June 27, 2019

Honoring Trooper Jerry L. Smith #373

“Dad taught us everything imaginable, from something as simple as riding a bike, to the most critical life lesson of always standing up for what’s right. One of the best things that he instilled in all of us was to never stand back and watch something being done wrong; that it isn’t always easy to do the right thing, but you must stand up for what’s right, no matter how hard the path may be.”

-Mechelle Smith, daughter of Trooper Jerry L. Smith, speaking at her father’s funeral



14 Recruits Become Troopers in NSP Camp 60 Graduation

Nebraska's newest class of State Troopers graduated in a ceremony at the State Capitol on Friday, June 21. These 14 Troopers completed 22 weeks of training at the NSP Training Academy in Grand Island and now begin their field training.

Curtis Anderson #89 - Geneva, Troop H
 Albert Brooks #120 - McCook, Troop D
 Cole Gibbins #130 - Sidney, Troop E
 Jordan Girardi #135 - Grand Island, Troop C
 Seth Howard #155 - Lincoln, Troop H
 Kristen McCrea #162 - South Sioux City, Troop B
 Seth Olson #175 - North Platte, Carrier
 Matthew Richardson #206 - Aurora, Troop C
 Elliot Schmit #115 - Omaha, Troop A
 Michael Schmitt #331 - Valentine, Troop D
 Nathan Schulz #240 - Ogallala, Troop D
 Brandon Smith #346 - Sidney, Troop E
 Cameron TenEyck #290 - Fremont, Carrier
 Dakota Wilson #391 - Nebraska City, Carrier



The Troopers of NSP Camp 60

14 Recruits Become Troopers in NSP Camp 60 Graduation



NSP Camp 60 Award Winners:

Superintendent's Leadership Award: Seth Howard

Captain Mark Williams Core Values Award: Seth Howard

O.H. Witt Academic Award: Elliot Schmit

D.R. Shearer Marksmanship Award: Elliot Schmit

R.J. Buchholz Physical Fitness Award: Cole Gibbins



NSP Foundation Serves NSP

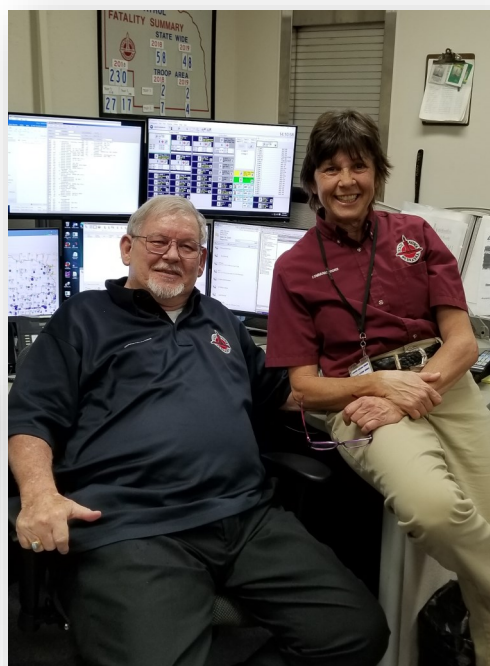
Border to Border, your Nebraska State Patrol is here to serve you. Since 1937, the professional team of State Troopers and support team of civilian employees have served to keep Nebraska safe for all its citizens and visitors.

State funds put Troopers on the road. The State Patrol Foundation takes them the extra mile. Established in 1986, the State Patrol Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization that supports the Nebraska State Patrol where restricted government funding cannot. It is the only organization which may accept charitable donations for the benefit of the Nebraska State Patrol.

Contributions received through the Foundation from private individuals, businesses and grants can be designated toward specific needs such as specialty equipment, advanced officer training, police service dogs and community education. For more information on the Foundation and its programs, please visit our website at <https://statepatrol.nebraska.gov/about/nsp-foundation>. Contributions may be sent to: Nebraska State Patrol Foundation, PO Box 21861, Lincoln, NE 68542.



National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week



NSP Dispatchers celebrated National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week in April!

Troopers Honored by MADD



16 troopers were presented with Hero Awards at the 20th annual Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Hero Awards ceremony, held in Lincoln.

The awards were for Adult DUI Enforcement Individual, Adult DUI Enforcement Team, Education & Awareness, and MIP Enforcement.

NSP arrested more than 1,250 impaired drivers in 2018.

Troopers honored were:

Trp. Jake Arnold #22

Trp. Keith Bell #574

Trp. Kevin Chase #429

Sgt. JJ Pedersen #348

Trp. Ryan Stirn #687

Trp. Luke Kelley #167

Trp. Zachary Lorang #183

Trp. Cody Cassidy #134

Trp. Justin Brase #419

Trp. Matthew Naughtin #327

Trp. Kelli Nichelson #359

Trp. Nick Jones #241

Inv. Shane Belgum #209

Trp. Michael Nutsch #321

Trp. Austin Donner #93

Trp. Charlie Cook #177



Piece of NSP History Presented to Family of Fallen Trooper George Amos Jr.

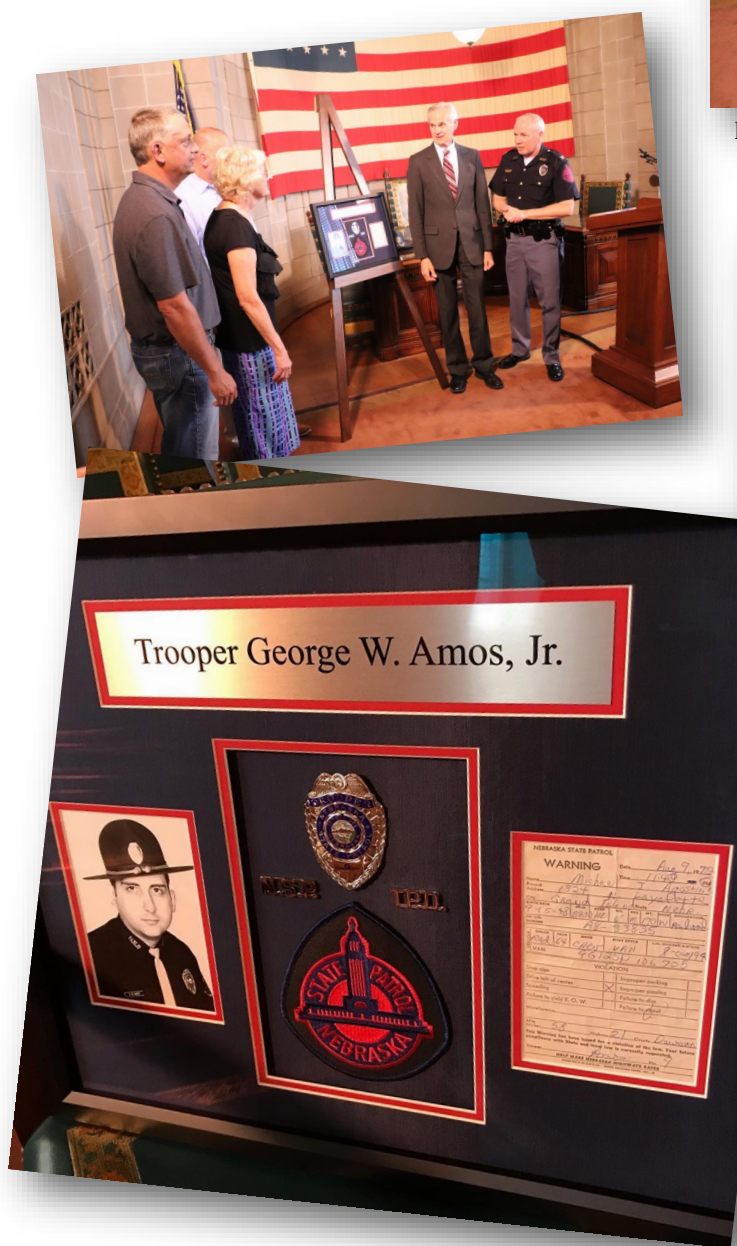
On June 6, Colonel John Bolduc and Lt. Governor Mike Foley presented a piece of NSP history to the widow and sons of Trooper George Amos Jr. #9, who was killed in the line of duty on April 20, 1973.

A family found a warning card written by Trooper Amos in 1972 while cleaning out records. The card was given to NSP and the connection was made with the Amos family to make the presentation.

Trooper Brent Potthoff was on hand with NSP PSD Amos, named in honor of Trooper Amos.



Members of the Amos family traveled from as far as Texas to be at the State Capitol for the presentation.



Nebraska State Patrol Personnel Actions

April-2019

New Hires

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Eff. Date</i>
Kaup	Jareth	Accountant II	SHQ - Lincoln	4/1/2019
Rosales	Elvira	Evidence Technician	Crime Lab - Lincoln	4/5/2019
Sysak	Bonnie	Security Guard	Capitol Security	4/11/2019
Glass	Sarah	Sec Communications Spec.	Capitol Security	4/14/2019
Harlow	Conrad	Security Guard	Capitol Security	4/18/2019
Martin	Tori	Sec Communications Spec.	Capitol Security	4/25/2019
Thomas	Carl	IT Infra Support Analyst/Sr	ICAC - NIAC - Lincoln	4/29/2019

Resignations

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>End Date</i>
Nikolic	Marko	Communications Specialist	HDQ - Lincoln	4/19/2019
Harlow	Conrad	Security Guard	Capitol Security - Lincoln	4/23/2019
Kugel	Whitley	Communications Specialist	HDQ - Lincoln	4/29/2019

Retirements

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>End Date</i>
Hoggatt	Leonard	Security Guard	Capitol Security - Lincoln	4/22/2019

Transfers

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Old Position</i>	<i>New Position</i>	<i>Eff. Date</i>
Dunn	Casey	IT Appl Dev/Sr - GIS mapping	Research Mgr NFIN - NIAC	4/8/2019

Promotions

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Old Position</i>	<i>New Position</i>	<i>Eff. Date</i>
Schoen	Sarah	Admin Asst III - QAIP - CID	Federal Aid Admin II - Grants	4/1/2019
Gill	Nolan	Staff Asst I - NFIN - NIAC	Staff Asst II - SOR	4/8/2019
Kaslon	Jeffrey	Electronic Tech/Sr - Radio	Elec Design Spec - CE	4/29/2019

May-19

New Hires

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Eff. Date</i>
Hindsley	Gailanne	Security Guard	Capitol Security - Lincoln	5/20/2019
Notaro	Chance	Electronic Tech/Sr	Engineering & Supply-Lincoln	5/20/2019
Moore	Alex	Communications Specialist	Troop A - Omaha	5/21/2019
Bass	Robert	Security Guard	Capitol Security - Lincoln	5/23/2019

Nebraska State Patrol Personnel Actions

May-19 Continued

Resignations

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>End Date</i>
Hansen	Susan	CID Records Technician	CID - Lincoln	5/3/2019
Shaner	Melissa	Communications Specialist	Troop D - North Platte	5/10/2019
Hanke	Christopher	Fingerprint Tech	CID - Lincoln	5/10/2019
Johnson	Raeanne	Communications Specialist	HDQ Troop - Lincoln	5/12/2019
Strawn	Andrew	Electronic Tech/Sr	Lincoln	5/20/2019
Wade	Caroline	Staff Asst I - NRAMS	Intell - Lincoln	5/31/2019

Retirements

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>End Date</i>
Bish	Charles	Trooper - CE	Dist. 1 - Grand Island	5/21/2019
Rogers	Jeffrey	Trooper - Patrol Div	Troop D - Broken Bow	5/31/2019

Transfers

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Old Position</i>	<i>New Position</i>	<i>Eff. Date</i>
Aldag	Richard	Inv. Sergeant - ISO	Inv. Sergeant - Cap Security	5/1/2019
DeFreece	Amanda	Trooper - Patrol - Lincoln	Inv. (Criminal) - Lincoln	5/3/2019
Brown	Jamieson	Trooper - CE - NE City	Trooper - Patrol - NE City	5/5/2019
Clancy	Daniel	Inv. (Crim) - Lincoln	Trooper - Patrol - Lincoln	5/5/2019
McGuane	Christopher	Trooper - CE - No Platte	Trooper - Patrol - No Platte	5/19/2019
Schmidt	Tyler	Inv (Crim) - Holdrege	Trooper - CE - Holdrege	5/19/2019
Hardin	John	Trooper - Patrol - Aurora	Trooper - Patrol - Omaha	5/26/2019

Promotions

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Old Position</i>	<i>New Position</i>	<i>Eff. Date</i>
Lewis	Russell	Lieutenant - IA - SHQ	Captain - Trp C Patrol - GI	5/1/2019
Kroenke	Tyler	Drug Investigator - Omaha	Sergeant - Patrol - Fremont	5/5/2019
Grummert	Michael	Sergeant - Patrol Div - Lincoln	Lieutenant - Patrol - Omaha	5/5/2019
Eberle	Alan	Investigator - Crim - Omaha	Sgt - Tech Crimes - Omaha	5/19/2019
Haugaard	Scott	Investigator - Crim - Omaha	Sgt - Tech Crimes - Omaha	5/19/2019

June-19

New Hires

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Eff. Date</i>
Ford	Darlene	Communications Specialist	Troop D - North Platte	6/3/2019
Green	Ashley	Communications Specialist	Troop D - North Platte	6/3/2019
Westerman	Brittne	Records Analysis Supervisor	CID - Lincoln	6/10/2019
Al-helfi	Rawa	CID Records Technician	CID - Lincoln	6/24/2019

Nebraska State Patrol Personnel Actions

June-19 Continued

Resignations

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>End Date</i>
Leader	William, R	Communications Specialist	Troop A - Omaha	6/2/2019
Wegher	Amanda	Staff Assistant I - SOR	SOR - Lincoln	6/7/2019
Gutierrez	Daniel	Trooper - Patrol Division	HDQ Troop - Lincoln	6/19/2019
Adams	Alexandra	Administrative Asst I	Carrier Enforcement - Lincoln	6/21/2019

Retirements

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>End Date</i>
Pleiss	Christopher	Sergeant - Carrier Enforcement	Waverly	6/3/2019

Deaths

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>End Date</i>
Smith	Jerry L.	Trooper - Patrol Division	Troop E - Scottsbluff	6/20/2019

Transfers

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Old Position</i>	<i>New Position</i>	<i>Eff. Date</i>
Mortensen	Samuel	Trooper - CVE - Kearney	Trooper - CVE - No Platte	6/7/2019
Jaramillo	Isaiah	Trooper - Patrol Div - Kimball	Trp - Patrol - Scottsbluff	6/11/2019
Fankhauser	William	Trp - CE - North Platte	Trp - Patrol - Wahoo	6/14/2019
Schmitz	John	Trp - Patrol Div - David City	Trp - Exec Prot - Lincoln	6/30/2019

Promotions

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Old Position</i>	<i>New Position</i>	<i>Eff. Date</i>
Miller	Greg	Sergeant - Patrol Div - Lincoln	Lieutenant - IA - Lincoln	6/2/2019
Townsend	Cory	Inv. Sergeant - ICAC - Lincoln	Lieutenant - IA - Lincoln	6/2/2019
Velte	Sean	Trooper - Patrol Div - Lincoln	Sergeant - Patrol Div - Lincoln	6/16/2019
Lundgren	Stacie	Inv. - Criminal - Lincoln	Inv Sergeant - Crim - Lincoln	6/21/2019
Anderson	Curtis	Officer Candidate - TA	Trp - Patrol Div - Geneva	6/21/2019
Brooks	Albert	Officer Candidate - TA	Trp - Patrol Div - McCook	6/21/2019
Gibbins	Cole	Officer Candidate - TA	Trp - Patrol Div - Sidney	6/21/2019
Girardi	Jordan	Officer Candidate - TA	Trp - Patrol Div - Gr Island	6/21/2019
Howard	Seth	Officer Candidate - TA	Trp - Patrol Div - Lincoln	6/21/2019
McCrea	Kristen	Officer Candidate - TA	Trp - Patrol Div - S Sioux City	6/21/2019
Olson	Seth	Officer Candidate - TA	Trp - CE - North Platte	6/21/2019
Richardson	Matthew	Officer Candidate - TA	Trp - Patrol Div - Aurora	6/21/2019
Schmit	Elliot	Officer Candidate - TA	Trp - Patrol Div - Omaha	6/21/2019
Schmitt	Michael	Officer Candidate - TA	Trp - Patrol Div - Valentine	6/21/2019
Schulz	Nathan	Officer Candidate - TA	Trp - Patrol Div - Ogallala	6/21/2019
Smith	Brandon	Officer Candidate - TA	Trp - Patrol Div - Sidney	6/21/2019
TenEyck	Cameron	Officer Candidate - TA	Trp - CE - Fremont	6/21/2019
Wilson	Dakota	Officer Candidate - TA	Trp - CE - Nebraska City	6/21/2019
Ramsey	David	Trooper - CE - Omaha	Sergeant - CE - Waverly	6/30/2019
Pelster	Rob	Trooper - Patrol Div - Lincoln	Sergeant - Patrol Div - Lincoln	6/30/2019

NEBRASKA STATE PATROL

PO BOX 94907

LINCOLN NE 68509-4907



Chimney Rock was illuminated in blue for a week in June to honor Trooper Smith.

In memory of the 12 Nebraska State Troopers who
have sacrificed their life in service to our state.



Loyal M. Zink #43

Marvin L. Hansen #98

George W. Amos Jr. #9

Donald Matejka #192

John T. Meistrell #67

Duane F. Nichols #133

Michael D. Farber #427

Mark P. Wagner #168

Vernon C. Rolfs #129

Raymond M. Koerber #108

Robert J. Chab #221

Jerry L. Smith #373